

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 SAM-01 RSC-01 /041 W

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P 220948Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5424

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13739

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (PRESIDENT FORD)

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: US PRESS REQUIREMENTS

1. OFFICIALS OF GAIMUSHO (PRESS DIV, PROTOCOL, FOREIGN PRESS CENTER), AKASAKA PALACE GUEST HOUSE AND IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD ARE WELL ALONG WITH PRELIMINARY PHASE OF PLANNING FOR PRESS ASPECTS PRESIDENTIAL VISIT. THEY HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND SEEM HAVE REALISTIC GRASP OF PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS WHICH WILL REQUIRE SOLUTION.

2. THIS IMPRESSION BASED UPON MEETING OF OFFICIALS THESE OFFICES WITH PAO OCT 22, REQUESTED AND CHAIRED BY OHKI, GAIMUSHO PRESS DIVISION. PAO BROUGHT THEM UP TO DATE ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE SO FAR, EMPHASIZING THAT DECISION AND ACTION STAGE CAN BEGIN ONLY WHEN ADVANCE PARTY ARRIVES.

3. JAPANESE SIDE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE CLOSE COORDINATION AMONG DIFFERENT JAPANESE ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR GAIMUSHO, GUEST HOUSE AND IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD. CLEAR IMPLICATION WAS THAT THEY NEED SOME TIME TO SORT OUT ROLES AND DUTIES AND REACH AGREED POSITIONS.

4. JAPANESE SIDE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT ASPECTS OF PRESS HANDLING FOR VISIT WHICH INVOLVE RELATIVELY LONG LEAD TIMES:

(A) DETERMINATION OF HOTELS TOKYO AND KYOTO WHICH WILL
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ACCOMMODATE WHITE HOUSE PRESS AND BE SITE OF PRESS ROOMS,

SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS MAY BE MADE WITH HOTELS AND WITH JAPAN INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION (KDD) FOR TELEX LINES, OVERSEAS PHONE SERVICE FOR PRESS, ETC.

(B) TO ASSIST IN PLANNING FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS REQUIREMENTS, BUS AND CAR NEEDS, ETC., EARLY WORD ON COMPOSITION (NUMBERS OF TV, NEWSPAPER, WIRE SERVICE, MAGAZINE ETC., REPRESENTATIVES) AS WELL AS TOTAL SIZE ANTICIPATED WHITE HOUSE PRESS CONTINGENT IMPORTANT.

(C) JAPANESE ANXIOUS REACH DECISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON PROCEDURES, CARDS, AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION FOR ACCREDITATION AND FOR COVERAGE OF INDIVIDUAL EVENTS.

(C) ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESS PHOTOGRAPHY OF PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH EMPEROR. THIS IS AREA IN WHICH CONCERN WITH PROTOCOL AND PRECEDENT IS ESPECIALLY INTENSE. JAPANESE SIDE, INCLUDING IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD REPRESENTATIVE, DID NOT APPEAR RIGID ON THIS POINT, BUT CAREFUL AND PROBABLY LENGTHY CONSULTATION WILL CLEARLY BE NEEDED IN ORDER REACH RESOLUTION SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES. PAST PRACTICE HAS BEEN TO RESTRICT PHOTOGRAPHY INSIDE PALACE TO OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER.

5. PAO TOOK NOTE OF POINTS RAISED BY JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVES AND PROMISED SHARE RELEVANT INFORMATION WITH JAPANESE AS SOON AS IT AVAILABLE. HE REITERATED THAT ADVANCE TEAM WAS KEY ELEMENT IN PLANNING AND THAT MANY ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RAISED WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL PARTY ARRIVED.

6. JAPANESE SIDE WILL DISCUSS PRESS ASPECTS PRESIDENTIAL VISIT AGAIN OCT 24 AND HAS REQUESTED MEETING WITH PAO OCT 25. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION PRIOR TO THAT DATE.
HODGSON

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